

Summer is my favorite season! I enjoy the weather and all of the activities I am able to do. I love sleeping in and doing whatever I want. Summer days are fun and stress-free!

The first reason that summer is my favorite season is the weather. During the summer, the grass is a beautiful green and the sun is always shining. It is a treat to be outside with the sun beating down on my back while I lay in the grass.

Also, summer time means swimming! One of my favorite things to do on a hot summer day is take a dip in the pool or go to Wakonda State Park for a swim. When it gets really hot, the cool water refreshes me and wakes me up. The one thing I enjoy more than swimming canoeing on a cool summer day with a group of my closest friends! We spend hours rowing, talking, and enjoying the peaceful water. It is a great stress reliever!

Summer is a vacation from school! This means no more stress or responsibility...until it is time to get a job! For now, I just relax and spend my days carefree. I sleep in until noon and stay up late, never worrying about being too tired for school the next day. Summer is the vacation I need to balance out all the stress involved in school.

There are many reasons why summer is my favorite season. The weather, activities, and being out of school are all factors. I get to enjoy all three during the summer!

Organization/Purpose: Score 3

- The controlling idea that summer is stress-free and filled with enjoyable outdoor activities is the focus, and the focus is maintained throughout the essay.
- Adequate transitional devices and strategies are used: "Also . . ."; "There are many reasons why . . ."; and "The first reason . . ."
- The introduction and conclusion are generic and short but adequate.

Evidence/Elaboration: Score 3-

- The support is relevant but general: "Summer time means swimming!" "Summer is a vacation from school!" and "The weather, activities, and being out of school are all factors."
- Elaborative techniques used are adequate. Examples: going to a state park to swim and canoe, sleeping until noon, lying in the grass in the sun.
- The vocabulary and style are appropriate for the topic, particularly to convey the relaxing aspects of summer; however, the style is general and unanimated.

Conventions: Score 2

- Sentences are correctly formed; however, they are short and simple.
- Punctuation is correct, but the exclamation point is overused.
- Grammar and usage errors are minimal: "lay" for "lie"; "shinning" for "shining."